THE

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All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office 823 *Broadway, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

N. B.—Attention is requested to the extract from the minutes of the Standing Committee, inserted on page 280.

THE USE OF THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

CLEVELAND, *February 3d*, 1864.

COL. CHAS. WHITTLESEY:

DEAR SIR—In your recent visit to Chattanooga, you had an opportunity of seeing something of the workings of the Sanitary Commission in the army of GEN. GRANT and, from your extensive military experience, are specially qualified to judge of the value of that work to the soldier. May I ask you, therefore, and especially to answer, as far as you can conveniently do so, the following questions upon which the public desire and deserve the most ample and accurate information.

1st. Does the benevolence of the people, as expressed in the contributions of Hospital Stores, made through the Sanitary Commission, supply a real and important want in the Army?

2d. In the work done by the other Agencies of the Commission, its SOLDIERS' HOMES, its HOSPITAL CARS, its HOSPITAL DIRECTORY, &c., are they of such necessity, or mercy, as to render them worthy of approbation and support?

3d. Are the methods pursued in the business of the Commission in the Western Department, in your judgment, judicious and economical?

Yours, respectfully,

J. S. NEWBERRY.

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CLEVELAND, *February 4th*, 1864.

DOCTOR J. S. NEWBERRY, *Assistant Secretary Sanitary Commission:*

DEAR SIR—When your note of yesterday was handed me, I was engaged in writing a communication to the Executive of the State, embracing, by his request, nearly the same topics which you mention. As the whole subject directly concerns the public, I do not think there will be any objections to my giving you a transcript of a part of my remarks already written, as a reply, in part, to your inquiries. In reference to the value of what are called Sanitary Supplies, I cannot do better than to quote the words of several Surgeons, in charge of hospitals. Without having had any previous intercourse with the Medical Staff on the line from Louisville to the front, I expected to find a want of cordiality between them and the agents of States and benevolent societies, and, therefore, questioned the Surgeons and other officers of the army on the subject of these extra official efforts. Dr. McClure, in charge of Hospital No. 17, Nashville, replied as follows: "The Sanitary is indispensable to us. At Stone River we could not have done at all without the vegetables, meats, bandages, and clothing pushed forward by them."

Dr. Warriner, in charge of the Field Hospital, Bridgeport, said: "Most of the fruit sent forward is poorly put up, and so much is lost that it would be better to use it in the rear, and not burden the transportation with it while it is so difficult, or

at least, the fruit should be re-canned before it is sent to the front. Dried fruit is far preferable. Pickles and butter are greatly needed. The Sanitary supplies are indispensable to us."

Dr. N. H. Townsend, of Lorain County, Ohio, one of the Medical Inspectors of the Army, told me that, "In Gen. Banks' Department, Sanitary supplies were always ahead of the regular hospital supplies, on the field of battle. They are indispensable. Onions, pickles and butter are needed, more particularly onions. Grated horse-radish, put up in small cans, with vinegar, is a most excellent thing, and so is cheese. Clean clothing, especially underclothing, is of the highest importance, after a battle. It cannot be supplied through the regular channels. Men are brought from the field, dirty and wet; their clothes saturated with blood, which should at once be stripped, or cut off them, and thrown away. For both sick and convalescents, extra food—something more than regular hospital supplies are necessary to save life. Small wounds, gangrene, scorbutic sores appear, and the stomach becomes torpid, all for want of a proper variety of food. It is rather medicine than nutriment, and is of more consequence than either attendance or medicine."

Dr. H. S. Hewitt, Medical Director at Chattanooga, said: "Cranberries in cans, cider, dried apples and peaches, also brandy peaches, are the best kind of extra hospital supplies. Blackberry cordial is of the utmost consequence in diarrhœa. Dried blackberries are not as good. [Dr. Hoven recommends that blackberry cordial be put up in small, strong bottles of six or eight ounces, so that the soldier may carry it in his pocket.] Without the Sanitary Commission we should not be able to get stimulants sufficient for our hospital patients."

Capt. Johnson, Quartermaster of the 41st Ohio Volunteers, remarked that, "The lives of men could be saved here every day if they could have the food they crave when they are sick. It is the want of variety that causes scorbutic sores. The few Sanitary supplies we are able to get are of the utmost value to us."

Other Surgeons and officers gave similar statements, but these are the only ones whose expressions were noted in my memoranda at the time.

Dr. Harlow, Surgeon of the Officers' Hospital at Chattanooga, and Dr. Barnum, of the Hospital Train, expressed themselves in a similar manner.

Gen. Grant, Gen. Rosecrans, Gen. R. W. Johnson, and Gen. Turchin, were quite free and emphatic in expressing the same sentiments.

An officer of the 141st New York Regiment is reported to have said that they had not drawn a full vegetable ration for a year, and that scurvy was becoming common among his men.

Gen. Hooker begged of the Sanitary Agent an order for some potatoes which were at Bridgeport, as a vital necessity to check the progress of scurvy in his command. He received an order for eight barrels, and sent teams for them at once.

Gen. Turchin was still more importunate, having fifteen cases of scurvy in his brigade, and fifty more showing signs of it, as will appear by a copy of his letter, herewith.

"I saw men who were far gone with this disease begging for a raw potato, or an onion, as though they were the most precious gifts in the World. I met no officer of the Army or Surgeon who expressed themselves otherwise than in favor of the plan of extra relief for our men. Among the soldiers in camp I was frequently met with the reply, "WE GET NONE OF THESE THINGS," which is, no doubt, true. Around Chattanooga, since the battle of Chicamauga, in September, until the 15th of January, 1864, the Army, sick and well, has been short of the most necessary supplies. The sick could not be safely removed, nor could their most absolute wants be fully met for want of transportation; while those IN hospital were dying for want of extra Sanitary supplies, those who are OUT of hospital could scarcely expect luxuries to be delivered to them."

The above extract does not entirely cover the ground of your inquiries, but I will reply more fully to them in the course of a few days.

Yours, respectfully and truly,

CHAS. WHITTLESEY.

LIFE IN A HOSPITAL TRAIN.

Owing to the very great distance which the Army of the Cumberland has penetrated the country of the enemy during the present year, leaving at times its hospital, as well as commissary depots, far in the rear, the work of removing the sick and wounded has assumed proportions before unknown. Each mile of advance, while it has increased the number of patients, has also in an almost equal degree, heightened the difficulty of their removal. The distance being too great for wagon transportation, the railroads being either destroyed by the enemy on their retreat, or in so worn out a condition as to render the work of destruction unnecessary, attacks being frequent by guerrilla bands, from these and other causes, the mere feeding of the army of well men became a gigantic problem, the solution of which seemed next to impossible. The care of the sick was hardly to be added to its already overwhelming intricacies.

Still, they have not been sacrificed to the necessities of the well and the demands of military strategy and activity. Something of the same self-sacrifice and charity that have labored and lavished money for them at home, has kept company with them in their suffering and weakness. Not all has been done for them that could have been wished, but much more than might have been expected under such trying circumstances. No fame follows the exertions of the surgeon; no promotion heralds his worth to the world. But the true history of the progress of the army would crown many a surgeon, young and old, with honors equal to those of much more prominent officers.

To meet the wants of the service, in the transportation of the sick and wounded, various plans have been tried, both by the Government and the Commission. Hospital boats have been used on the Cumberland with indifferent success. Statistics show in all cases unfavorable results, and in some the mortality has been fearful, reaching ten per cent. of the total shipment in a three days' trip.

Probably most of this can be attributed to the crowded condition of the boats, the slender protection against change of temperature, and the invariable dampness of the cabin. But even under the best of circumstances, "grave cases do not do well," said a distinguished Surgeon of New York. Perhaps the constant jarring, gentle though it be, of the machinery for the length of time required by a journey on our crooked western rivers, may have much to do with it.

Then, too, the seeds of malarious disease are sown profusely, to develop in due time, and infectious diseases have a most favorable opportunity to deposit their poison. The report of Surgeon Brinton to the Surgeon General on hospital gangrene at Louisville, gives some interesting remarks on this point. He says:

"The development of this disease on the route seems to have been owing to the fact that the transportation of the wounded was effected by means of crowded and ill-ventilated boats, and that the trips by the Cumberland and Ohio Rivers frequently occupy several days. During this time these patients who had already undergone much suffering, were exposed to all the influences most apt to engender this disease. In contrast with this fact, it was found that as soon as the Louisville and Nashville Railroad was opened so that the wounded could be conveyed from city to city in one day, all importation of gangrenous sores into Louisville ceased. The development of hospital gangrene during the boat transportation is a noticeable fact, and is strikingly analagous with the same phenomena observed among our paroled wounded prisoners from Richmond, received into the Annapolis General Hospital some months since.

A Hospital Train was fitted up in this department by the Commission, in October, 1862, and although rude in its accommodations, such satisfactory results were attained, that a second and third were added, and the cooking arrangements somewhat improved. These cars, by one casualty and another, have all been rendered unsuitable, and given place to more perfect and substantial ones. At present, there are in use nine hospital cars—seven on the Chattanooga road, under the charge of Dr. Myers, Surgeon U. S. V., and two under my own immediate supervision on the Louisville Road.

The train on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, consists of one passenger, one mail, three box, and three hospital cars. The passenger coach is kept scrupulously neat, for the accommodation of patients alone, and by a special arrangement of seats, can be changed in a few moments to a bed-car, if necessary, which, however, cannot often occur, as every load of sick will contain some who would prefer to sit.

The mail car is fitted up for store room, office, and kitchen. The store room is provided with drawers for all the smaller supplies, locker for bread, refrigerator for meat, ice box, water casks, &c. Indeed, there is room for one thousand rations, beside some Sanitary stores, with space to spare.

The office is neatly fitted up. The kitchen occupies the place of the baggage-room, where may be found several disciples of the culinary

art, always busy, and although laboring under difficulty, preparing articles of diet which would do honor to many of the best arranged hospitals. This car is one of the trophies won by the immortal Mitchell in his successful dash on Huntsville, in 1862.

The two box cars, each containing twenty-four beds, arranged during a pressing necessity, last fall, are entirely unfit for the purpose, being destitute of ventilators, means of heating, and without proper springs. Any man who could ride in one of these beds safely, is able to sit up in a passenger-coach, and the removal of sick men in them would be simply murderous. I am happy to say that these cars are for the future to be used for the transportation of Sanitary and hospital supplies, in connection with the Hospital Train.

The three new hospital cars seem to meet the demand exactly, combining all possible freedom of motion, the least jar, good ventilation, a comfortable degree of warmth, and expedition in loading and unloading.

Each car contains twenty-four stretchers hung on uprights by heavy rubber bands. The stretchers can be removed from the car without disturbing the occupant, There are also seats for those who wish to sit up, and a sofa for the Surgeon or attendant, beneath which is a wardrobe and drawers for books, newspapers, &c. Opposite the sofa, is a kitchen only six feet by three, yet it contains water-tank, wash-basin, sink for washing dishes, cupboards for stores and dishes, and two large lamps heating copper-boilers, by which soup, coffee, tea, &c., may be quickly and nicely prepared.

The "bumper" is surrounded by a stiff spring, which prevents the communication of the jar when the motion is suddenly stopped or applied. The whole interior is fitted up in a style superior to any cars in use in the Northwest.

Articles of clothing are kept constantly on the train to be given to those needing them, and sanitary stores of every character are liberally supplied.

Patients speak in the highest terms, and with the deepest feeling, of the kindest and efficiency of Dr. Myers.

Trips are made tri-weekly from Bridgeport for hospital patients. Large numbers of discharged and furloughed soldiers are carried, but many more of the latter come by passenger and box cars.

On the Louisville Road the accommodations are much the same as those just mentioned. The arrangements for cooking are excellent, and much improved during the last month, a fine range having been substituted for the stove before used. The food prepared is of good quality; and besides Government rations, many delicacies—such as are comprised in the stores of the Commission—are issued in any amount required.

Since my connection with the Hospital Train, I have removed 20,472 patients, with the loss of only one man, who was removed contrary to the wish of his Surgeon, and my own judgment, at his earnest desire to "die at home."

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It now remains to give the reader some idea of the work which has been done in these trains.

On the 17th of October, 1862, the Sanitary Agent of Illinois fitted up two cars for use on the Lebanon Branch of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, to assist in the removal of the sufferers in the battle of Perrysville. After being used a little more than one month, they were transferred to the United States Sanitary Commission, which has since that time had the superintendence of the removal of sick and wounded in this department. One of them was an old smoking and baggage car, the baggage room being fitted up with eighteen bunks, while the seats in the other part remained as before. The other was an old baggage car stolen by the rebels from the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, and recaptured by the lamented General Mitchell at Huntsville. This contained the same number of bunks, the remainder of the room being taken up with stores, baggage and a box-stove. As these cars were intended for short trips only, no provision was made for cooking food beyond the boiling of a gallon or two of coffee in case of an emergency. Another baggage car was added in March.

Until the breaking of the railroad by Morgan, which occurred during the battle of Stone River, these cars were used occasionally on the Lebanon Branch, and then on the main stem to Bowling Green. The interruption of the railroad to Louisville, and the rapid accumulation of patients at Nashville, rendered transportation by the Cumberland necessary, but on the re-opening of the railroad on February 3d, 1863, river transportation was given up, and it has not been resorted to again.

My observation begins early in March. I have prepared some statistics, but many of my notes of cases and other interesting memoranda were lost in the confusion following the battle of Chicamauga. For some time after the battle, you will remember, I was on general duty in Chattanooga.

The following table will give some idea of the magnitude of the work in which I have been engaged, and in which the Sani-

tary Commission has been so much interested:

NUMBER OF SICK AND WOUNDED PASSENGERS ON THE HOSPITAL TRAIN, LOUISVILLE AND NASHVILLE RAILROAD.

	Hospital cases.	Furloughed and discharged.
Up to May 1st, 1863	5,254	1,000
May	919	unknown.
June	1,983	661
July	698	unknown.
August	256	35
September	400	43
October	1,230	593
November	1,075	630
December	65	2,015
	11,880	4,977
	4,977	
Total	16,857	

NUMBER OF SICK AND WOUNDED PASSENGERS ON THE HOSPITAL TRAIN, NASHVILLE AND CHATTANOOGA RAILROAD.

Up to May 1st, 1863	547
During May	307
June	668
August	350
September	783
October	960
Total	3,615
On Louisville and Nashville Railroad	16,857
On Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad	3,615
Total	20,472

Since October, my duties have been confined to the transportation of the sick and wounded on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. The distance between the cities is 185 miles, a long and often very tedious journey for many of my patients. During the year, however, but two have died on the Hospital Train, both being cases of extreme exhaustion from chronic diarrhœa and, indeed, the friends of one man assumed the responsibility of his removal and subsequent medical treatment.

In the transportation of the sick we have not been without some extraordinary adventures. Beside sickness and wounds, we have had to contend with rebels. On April 10th, while bringing up sick from Murfreesboro' to Nashville in a hospital car attached to the passenger train, we were attacked at Antioch Station, eleven miles out, by the rebels, who had drawn the spikes from the track, and thus thrown the train off. The rebels, who were in a wood above us, began at once to fire upon the train. The bullets mostly struck the roofs of the cars and rebounded, reminding us, who were still within, of an attic room in a severe hailstorm. The small guard of forty were soon overpowered and fled, leaving sixteen of their number on the ground, either dead or severely wounded. The rebels now made a rush for the cars, and began robbing the passengers of money, watches and clothing. Several Tennesseeans made a dash at our car, shouting, "Get out of there, you d——d Yankees," and flourishing their pistols and knives in our faces, but were immediately driven off by the Eighth Texas, who formed a portion of the attacking party. These men showed the greatest consideration, handling our sick and wounded as tenderly as brothers could. They not only left me and my attendants undisturbed, but did not insist on paroling any of our patients who were with us. But several sick men, who left the cars at the first onset, were carried off with the other passengers. If our car had been separated from the others, I think that we should not have been disturbed, but it was impossible to burn the train without destroying it. None of my patients were injured. The passengers were marched away, the cars fired, the booty collected, and the plunderers off again, as if by magic, leaving myself and my attendants in possession of the field.

We immediately set to work, giving the wounded a preliminary dressing, collecting the scattered, and opening McCann's house as a hospital. We were relieved about 3 A. M., by a special train sent from Nashville for us, and brought in all of our patients not comfortably provided for, who could be moved, several bushels of mail matter, and the locomotive. At 7 A. M., I left Nashville for Louisville with a train of three hundred patients.

Early in May the remaining two old hospital cars were destroyed by accident at Brooks' Station, on the Louisville Railroad, and as but three new ones had been added, we were seriously troubled to remove men during this and the following month.

I make several extracts from my report of August 1st.

An advance of the Army of the Cumberland had been determined on, May 19th, and a general removal of the sick to the rear commenced. First, the hospitals at Murfreesboro' except the general field hospital, which was commanded by the guns of the fortification, and, in fact, almost within them, were discontinued, and the patients removed to the latter, which was filled to its utmost capacity. Then, too, the hospitals at Lavergne, Brentwood, and Franklin were broken up, the patients being removed to Nashville. The regimental hospitals of our right wing soon followed on the massing of that part of our Army at Triune.

The last of the patients were received while the attack on Franklin, by Van Dorn, was going on, resulting in the capture of the town by him, and its re-capture by our forces. We had but one hour's start of the attacking party, but were able to remove every sick and wounded man.

To add to our embarrassments, the regimental hospitals of our main body were

beginning to be broken up, commencing with those of the cavalry. The field hospital, at Murfreesboro', already overcrowded, was the only depot for the constantly accumulating mass of suffering humanity.

As our kitchen car, and most of the train had been either destroyed, or so badly injured as to be unsafe, by request of the Medical Director, Dr. Thurston, I made application to the Louisville and Nashville Railroad for additional means of transportation. Mr. Marshall, the Superintendent, was only able to give me a train of box cars. These, Dr. Thurston, with his accustomed care for the sick, declined to use, saying that, "Cars which would be uncomfortable for a well man, must be injurious to a sick one." But, after exhausting every other means, on June 6th, when a general engagement was possible any day, and probably would happen soon, a train of new freight cars were selected, beds placed in them, the patients carefully chosen by the Surgeons of the hospitals, whence they were transferred, and none sent unless they seemed able to endure the journey. Of these, the worst cases were placed in the ambulance car, with a few discharged men, who had long been awaiting transportation.

A short time previous to this, Adams' Express Company had put on a new train, for the transportation of Army freight. The cars were new and clean, had stiff India-rubber springs, rode easily, and except as to ventilation, were as comfortable as the first-class passenger coaches. Through the assistance of Col. Anderson, Military Superintendent of Railroads, we obtained the use of them. We placed straw beds in them, on which we directed the men to spread their blankets, and furnished comforts to those who had none. We added the articles of prime necessity, for an ordinary hospital ward, which, with the beds, &c., were returned in the ambulance car. We were able to move one hundred men daily.

In addition to the cooked rations, which the men brought, the store rooms of the Commission were laid under contribution, and any proper articles of diet taken which could be prepared, without fire. On our arrival at Bowling Green, hot coffee in large quantities, and toast for those who needed it, having been ordered on the previous trip, were furnished immediately, and the "twenty minutes for breakfast" spent in attending on those who needed extra care.

Unless we had cases of unusual severity I came up only to Mumfordsville. By this time the men had dined, their wounds had been dressed, and but little remained to be done beyond the common services of a nurse. If a medical officer was with us, the men were left in his charge; if not, with some attendants in whom confidence could be placed, and I returned with the down train to Nashville. Here, the necessary arrangements for the next days' trip were made by 9 P. M., between which time and midnight the men were all received, and all comfortably cared for by 3 A. M., our time for setting out.

On the first of August four additional cars were fitted up for temporary use, and on October 1st, the new hospital cars were furnished. These are built on the same plans as those used between Washington and New York, with such modifications as the tunnel and the difference in the width of track rendered necessary. The draw-bar which connects the cars together, is surrounded by a stiff, spiral spring, which prevents any sudden jerk. Double springs are under the trucks, and in addition the elliptic spring bar on the side to guard against lateral motion. Each car contains twenty-four stretchers, hung by stout rubber bands between two uprights. The stretchers are supplied with hair pillows and comforts, which can be easily renovated. They can be removed from the car, receive the patients, be re-placed, and again bear them to the hospitals when the journey is completed. The rubber bands prevent all shock and jolting, and communicate a gentle motion, which usually lulls the patient to sleep.

Perhaps I can give our friends at home the best idea of our work by describing that of a single day:

Yesterday, for instance, I arrived at Nashville on the return trip about midnight, being delayed by an accident. After "making up my train," receiving my clerk's report, and my orders for the morrow from the Medical Director, I rolled up in my blanket for a nap. But 5 A. M., soon came, and with it the yell of a regiment of veteran volunteers going home on furlough. Such a yell! Enough to raise the dead, and it did raise my "seven sleepers," who were soon at work, building fires, preparing the cars, and making breakfast for themselves and the men. In another hour the platform of the depot is covered with soldiers from the front, officers on leave of absence, citizens and camp-followers. The veterans are assigned to cars by themselves, and are jolly and noisy. The train is so long that it is divided into various parts, standing on different tracks. Ambulances loaded with the sick from the hospitals and Soldiers' Home pour in, and are stopped and examined by my steward, and if the occupants are found to be "all right," are furnished with checks, which admit them to the cars. If any doubtful cases arise, they are told to report to me at the cars, where we are busy putting in beds, assisting the feeble and disabled to seats, and looking after their baggage.

All may have gone well thus far, but at 6 o'clock the ambulance master brings us his list, which calls for 200 men, while my steward has given out but 180 checks. Some Jehu of a driver, partaking of the nature of the beast he lashes, has managed to deposit his load of men at the wrong platform. Two of us at once push through the crowd, inquiring of every soldier, "Where did you come from?" "Where are you going?" "Let me see your papers." The soldiers think it none of our business, and, very naturally, answer with emphatic curses. We secure, however, perhaps, a dozen of the twenty missing men.

The ticket office is now opened, and there is a great rush for tickets. About 200 furloughed men are marched down from the "Home" and hospitals, the guard clearing the way for them, and they are soon comfortably seated. As the passenger coaches will accommodate but 400 of the 600 waiting for a chance, the pressure for admission is tremendous. The papers of military men are examined, and they pass in. A sutler, who will take no refusal from the agent to sell a citizen a ticket, makes an attempt to dodge in, but is met with cold steel; while an old man, who is carrying home the remains of his son who has died in hospital, is told, "You can't get on the train, *if I see you.*" And yet the good old man is found at night safe at Louisville. The sharpest eyes will wink.

Only three minutes to seven. Nearly all the blue coats are aboard. My missing eight stragglers are found, helpless as lost children, in some out-of-the-way corner, and put on just as we leave.

Most of the men have had breakfast. The rest are provided with coffee, toast, crackers and cheese. Then, there are patients to examine and to prescribe for, wounds to dress, questions to answer, transportation to manage, &c., &c. This takes up the first three hours, till we arrive at Bowling Green. Here we are met by inevitable boys, with their white oak pies and unsavory chicken, with which they attempt to supply the men. My diarrhœa patients seem to have an unnatural craving for the wretched stuff. The boys are ordered off, but *will* return. I tell the veterans in cars ahead to confiscate any thing that attempts to pass. The pie-boys do not take the hint, are too venturesome, and so lose all in the handsome charge of the ready veterans. On one occasion they actually bagged a darkey, with his pies, who was last heard of somewhere in Ohio, stoutly asserting that he was "'fisticated by the sojers."

Each man is looked to hourly. As dinner-time approaches, bread is cut and buttered, meat sliced, pickles and apples got out, and, from the large tank of boiling water, tea and soup are prepared by the barrel. Each man is furnished with plate, cup, and spoon, the solid food is distributed, and the moment the train stops the tea and soup are served out, followed, perhaps, by ale and fruit. Those who need special diet are carefully attended to.

The furloughed men in the passenger train are next looked after and fed. Their destination is ascertained, and ambulances telegraphed for to carry those who wish to go on without stopping, to the several railroad depots in the city, New Albany, and Jeffersonville. Those too ill to travel further will be sent to hospital, while the others will be directed to the Soldiers' Home.

When we arrive at Louisville, about 5 o'clock, those of my patients able to walk proceed at once to the ambulances. The sickest and disabled are placed on handcarts and rolled to the front of the depot, and we see them all safely delivered at their several points of destination.

When the cars are washed, stores obtained for to-morrow's trip, and report made to the Medical Director's Office, we may consider our day's work done.—*Letters from Dr. J. P. Barnum, Surgeon in Charge.*

THE COMMISSION IN TENNESSEE.

OFFICE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION,
NASHVILLE, *January* 30, 1864.

DR. J. S. NEWBERRY,
Secretary Western Department,
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Louisville:

DEAR SIR—The opening of the railroad to Chattanooga has enabled us to forward an increased supply of stores. Not less than ten car loads have been sent to Chattanooga since the 15th of this month.

After receiving here those most urgently needed, and securing for them transportation, I obtained from the authorities a promise that two car loads should be promptly forwarded to Huntsville, Ala., or to such other point on the line of the road as they were found to be most needed at. Having made this arrangement, leaving the cars to be loaded, and forwarded in charge of Mr. Tone. I preceded them, Jan. 18th, that I might learn, by inspection so far as possible of the 15th Army Corps, where they were most needed, and secure store room and quarters.

I reached Scottsboro' the next day; called at Headquarters and saw Surgeon Chas. McMillen, Medical Director of the corps. He informed me that there were but few sick in the command; that at that post there was no general hospital; that he had a few goods from the Agent of the Western Sanitary Commission, and he advised me that I should find ours most needed at

Huntsville. These facts I learned in a few moments conversation, and went on in the same train some fifty miles to Flint River or Brownsboro' the then termination of the railroad, the bridge over the river not being completed. Brownsville is twelve miles by wagon road from Huntsville, which place I reached that evening.

The next day I called at the office of Dr. John Moore, Medical Director of the Department of the Tennessee, who was absent, but in his place found Asst.-Surgeon D. L. Huntington, U. S. A. After mutual consultation, and learning that a general or post hospital was established, and that Huntsville would be for the present a central point, and that the opening of a store room by the Commission was desirable, I addressed him the following letter:

U. S. Sanitary Commission Branch Office,
Huntsville, *January* 20, 1864.

D. L. Huntington, *Surgeon U. S. A.,*
Assistant Medical Director, Depart. of the Tennessee:

Dear Sir—I respectfully ask that a suitable store room and a room for quarters for two Agents, be assigned to the U. S. Sanitary Commission; and that transportation be furnished for two car loads of stores from Brownsboro' to Nashville.

Very respectfully,
Your obd't servant,
A. N. Read.

The letter was endorsed as follows:

Headquarters Department of Tennessee,
Medical Director's Office,
Huntsville, *January* 20, 1864.

Approved, and respectfully forwarded to Maj. R. W. Sawyer, A. A. G. Dept. Tennessee, recommending that the within request be granted, as being subservient in the highest degree to the interest of the troops.

By order Medical Director, Dept. Tennessee.
D. L. Huntington,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A.

This request was promptly granted by Major Sawyer, who gave me promise of all needed assistance, and remarked that if it was necessary, the Headquarters' train should be sent for the goods.

I obtained the next day a very eligible store room, and connected with it were ample quarters, and then telegraphed Sanitary Commission, Nashville:

"Have obtained store room, quarters, and transportation from Brownsboro' to Huntsville. Send on the two car loads."

Also, to Mr. Tone, care of Surgeon McMillen, Scottsboro':

"Bring your goods to Huntsville. Telegraph Col. Bingham, Chief Q. M., when they will arrive at Brownsboro', and ask him that teams be sent to take them forward to Huntsville."

These arrangements being completed, Surgeon Huntington very kindly gave me access to the weekly reports of the Surgeons in the command, and from them I obtained the following statement, which shows that the command is in good condition, and that, after making all due allowance for the fact that previous to their march to the relief of the Army of the Cumberland all the sick had been left, an unusual degree of health prevails at this time.

* * * * *

[The ratio of sickness yielded by the figures furnished at this point in the report is a little over *four* per cent. of the entire command.]

On January 2d there were sick in hospital at Memphis, 1,657. During the week previous, 11 deaths.

Gen. Crook's cavalry command, 2d Division, was also stationed here, and I visited each regiment in company with the most excellent Medical Director of the Division, M. C. Cuykendoll.

The 92d Illinois Mounted Infantry, —— strong, had sent only seven to general hospital during the last six months, and had but two sick with the regiment, and no deaths from sickness. This is unprecedented good health. This regiment has been moving most of the time, and has been engaged in frequent skirmishes with the enemy.

The Surgeon of the 80th Ohio, E. P. Bird, reports present strength ——; have no hospital tent, and six men in quarters who ought to be in hospital.

In the 15th Iowa we saw some engaged in policing and beautifying their camp—others playing ball. Of the first party, a company were grubbing a large green oak stump of formidable dimensions, as it marred the beauty of their camp street. The regiment have had no issue of vegetables since July, and have obtained very little by foraging.

They obtained a few, and a few socks from the Sanitary Commission. They have no marked cases of scurvy, are well clothed, lost about seventy in the battle of Chattanooga and Missionary Ridge.

I would make no further report of regiments, only stating that I visited all in the command stationed near Huntsville, and instead, submit the following report of the Medical Director, kindly furnished for my use:

Headquarters Second Division Cavalry,
Medical Director's Office,
Huntsville, Ala., *January* 21.

Dr. Read, *Sanitary Inspector,*
Army of the Cumberland:

Sir—As you requested, I herewith transmit you a statement of the sanitary condition of the 2d Division Cavalry, commanded by Brig.-General Geo. Crook, and consisting of the following regiments of cavalry, to wit: 4th United States, 4th

Michigan, 5th Iowa, 7th Pennsylvania, 3d Indiana, 1st, 3d, 4th and 10th Ohio, and 2d Kentucky; and the following regiments of mounted infantry, to wit: 17th and 72d Indiana, 92d, 98th and 123d Illinois, and the Chicago Board of Trade.

The average strength of the command from the 1st of August, until the 31st of December, 1863, inclusive, in the field, was about —— men, and the average number of sick report daily was ——, many of whom remained off duty but one or two days. (Omitted figures yield less than 2 per cent. sickness.)

There have been ninety-three sent to general hospital, and thirteen deaths.

At the present time the command is separated, part in East and part in West Tennessee, and another portion near this place, hence I am unable to give report in full. I have the date from about one-half of the command, and it shows a sick list of less than twenty at the present time.

This statement does not include the casualties occurring in battle, or by accident, but from disease alone.

Very respectfully,

M. C. Cuykendoll,

Medical Director, 2d Division Cavalry, Army of the Cumberland.

Much of this good condition is undoubtedly due to the faithful and judicious labors of the Medical Director and the other medical officers in the command.

All seemed to be working in harmony, and with a single eye to the good of the whole.

My next visit was to the post hospital, which is a very large three-story brick building, in the city, known as the Calhoun House, (had been formerly used by the rebels,) Surgeon Dudley Rodgers of the 59th Indiana in charge.

The house is a magnificent structure, rooms large and airy. It contained about twenty-five patients; these had comfortable beds, but their diet was bad. I saw their supper, which consisted *only* of bread made of corn meal and water, fried salt pork, and coffee without milk. Some of these patients were very sick. I remarked to one of the patients, "you have good quarters," "yes," he replied, "but that is all." I saw in the store room half a sheep, and at times they have fresh beef. I may add here, that on the arrival of our stores, we gave them a liberal supply, which must have been essential to the recovery of some of them.

The next day I called on Surgeon J. S. Prout, Medical Director of the 3d Division, 15th Army Corps, and with him visited the regiments of that command, first obtaining from him the following statement. Strength of command ——. On the 5th of January —— remained unfit for duty; —— were reported unfit for duty the following week, and 181 were returned to duty. Remaining unfit for duty, January 16, ——. (Three and a half per cent. from sickness.) During this week there were issued, 7,398 pounds of fresh beef, about one and a half rations, and 3,428 pounds of potatoes, being about three-fourths ration.

1st brigade.

Regiment.	Beef, lbs.	Potatoes.
59th Indiana	1,000	....
48th "	550	441
4th Minnesota	715	....
18th Wisconsin	598	1,200
63d Illinois	....	....

The 18th Wisconsin was doing provost duty, and probably was the first to apply.

2d brigade.

The 19th Iowa and 80th Ohio, 1,950 rations of beef, no potatoes, and no potatoes or beef reported by other regiments.

3d brigade.

Regiment.	Beef.	Potatoes.
5th Iowa	993	750
10th "	600	800
25th Missouri	692	237
93d Illinois	500	....

From the Batteries and Pioneer Corps no reports. I found very few sick, with the regiments, and notified each Surgeon in charge that we had opened a store room, and that they could have any goods we had, by sending for them. All said they wanted them, and would send promptly.

Mr. Tone coming with the goods, I returned to Brownsboro' on the 25th, and found there the 10th Missouri and 56th Illinois; these were in good condition, as the others, and had received during the week, one ration of potatoes and two of beef. All were well clothed, huts good, camps well policed, the only thing that seemed to be deficient, was the ditching, but as the weather was dry the camps were not muddy.

I think the order of Surgeon Moore that all in the department should report weekly the issues of fresh beef and potatoes, must result in good; as it can be seen at once who are not supplied; and by bringing it weekly before each officer, will prompt them to make every effort to obtain them. On my return to Stevenson, I found the Alabama House had been taken possession of by the Government, and was to be used for a Soldiers' Home, under charge of Government officers. I have since requested Mr. Sutliffe to remove four tents from Bridgeport there, I notified him that we will send him stores, so that he can aid the officers as they may desire.

At Stevenson there have been many instances of suffering both by soldiers and by refugees. The trains make irregular connections, those coming in from Huntsville (to which place they now run,) not con-

necting for many hours, with the Nashville and Chattanooga trains, and these trains are often so full, that further delay is unavoidable.

The night of the 25th was clear but cold. As most of our company could not find beds and food, one of them, Samuel McClellan, was making his way to a little fire he saw by the road-side, that he might make a cup of coffee; on his way, he found by the side of the railroad track, the body of a child, about eleven years old. By the fire sat an old lady, her head as white as cotton, with two children of her niece's in charge. The dead child had been one of their number; the old lady and children had been fed by the soldiers, and she was doing the best she could to live through the night, with her children around her little fire. She was put under shelter, and a better fire made for her, but no bed could be obtained. She was from Chattanooga, endeavoring to reach her brother in Columbus, Kentucky. She was not a soldier, and I only refer to the incident to show the want of bettter accommodations, for those who are compelled to stop there. Many a soldier has been compelled to walk all night, without food or fire. I trust the Alabama House will soon be open where they can find both.

I expect to make a personal inspection of the hospitals and their wants, at Murfreesboro', Tullahoma, Stevenson, and Bridgeport the first of next month.

You will see that the condition of this corps is much better than those in Chattanooga. On their return from Knoxville, they were poorly clad, but on reaching Bridgeport clothing was soon furnished, and they are now well supplied.

I feel it to be my imperative duty to ask more urgently than ever before, for all the vegetables that can be furnished, knowing that they are now necessary not only for the *strength* of our soldiers, but are *life* to them.

A command just sent back to Bridgeport, have sent over one hundred sick to the general hospital in charge of Dr. Varian, every one of whom had marked indications of the scurvy. I have persuaded several Surgeons to direct their patients to eat the potatoes raw, sliced thin, with vinegar. They inform me that they are relished in that form. Can they not be pickled in vinegar, and thus transportation economized, while their utility is increased tenfold, and also preserved to such time as they cannot be furnished fresh? So important has the subject appeared to me, that I have addressed the following letter, to several of the medical officers of this army, whom I chanced to meet in Nashville. I was particularly fortunate in meeting with Surgeon R. H. Coolidge, Medical Inspector U. S. A., just returning from an inspection of the troops in Knoxville and vicinity.

I would ask special attention to the statements of Drs. Phelps and Perkins, Both have been long in the field and have been Medical Directors of the 20th and 4th Army Corps.

I have sent the same note of inquiry to Dr. Vollum, Medical Inspector of the Army of the Cumberland, and to Dr. G. Perin, Medical Director. I will forward to you their answers as soon as received. But there can be but one opinion in regard to the danger to our Army from scurvy, and of the necessity of prompt action by all, to furnish means for its prevention and cure. This induced me to write the following letter of inquiry:

NASHVILLE, *January* 31, 1864.

DEAR SIR—For want of sufficient variety of food, and of fresh vegetables, scurvy is beginning to appear in this army.

I have reason to believe, both from the testimony of sea captains and my own observation, that potatoes pickled in vinegar, or put up in molasses, as for sea voyages, to be eaten raw, are much better for the cure or prevention of scurvy then when cooked.

Please inform me if in your opinion the Commission should furnish the potatoes in these forms, and if there is a necessity of an increased supply of vegetables.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

A. N. READ.

To this letter I have received the following replies:

NASHVILLE, *January* 31, 1864.

DOCTOR—I am on my return to Washington from an inspection of the hospitals and troops at and near Knoxville, and would represent to you that, in my opinion, the Sanitary Commission can do a great deal of good, by sending to that point *anti-scorbutics* and *garden seeds.*

The troops are comparatively healthy, but they have been deprived of vegetables so long, that there is danger of scurvy; indeed, some of the premonitory signs of that disease are now apparent.

In reply to your note of inquiry, I have to state, that raw potatoes, sliced and pickled, or preserved in molasses, are an excellent anti-scorbutic. Indeed, when I have the fresh potato and can have it cooked, I prefer using it raw, sliced and dressed as salad, for my scorbutic patients.

I have advised the Medical Director at Knoxville to have one garden made for the hospitals in that city, which now accommodates 2,500 patients. I have also advised that gardens be made for the troops, now in winter quarters in the vicinity of Knoxville, even though there be no possibility of the troops remaining long enough to

reap the fruit of their labor further than relates to early greens, such as lettuce, turnip-tops, spinach, radishes, mustard, &c.

The seeds most needed are lettuce, beets, turnips, tomatoes, radishes, spinach, mustard, pea, early cabbage, onion sets, corn, potatoes, and a general supply are wanted.

While the Tennessee River continues low, Sanitary stores and especially anti-scorbutics should be sent at intervals of two or three days, in say not to exceed thirty medium sized packages, so that the boats may take them without detriment to other demands of the service.

I think much good would result if an arrangement were made between the Sanitary Commission and Medical Director Hewitt, at Knoxville, for the services of Mr. Culbertson as Superintendent of the Hospital Garden. He is now at Knoxville in the employment of the Commission, is willing to do the work, and is represented to me as having the requisite experience and knowledge.

Very respect., your obed't servant,

R. H. Coolidge,
Medical Inspector U. S. A.

Headquarters Department of Cumberland,
Assistant Medical Director's Office,
January 22, 1864.

Dr. Read—Dear Sir—At your request I would respectfully report, that I have not had any personal opportunity to learn the effect of the use of the potato prepared as you suggest, in cases of scurvy and where a marked tendency to this disease exists. The chemical constituents of the potato, combined with vinegar, furnish, in my opinion, one of the very best dietetics I know of, both for the arrest and cure of scorbutus. In the French Army, and during the insurrections in Sicily, I had frequent opportunity to witness the good effect of the potato peeled and sliced thin, then dressed with vinegar, salt, pepper, &c., as the green cucumber is usually prepared for table use. In both of these campaigns, there was no other treatment rendered which was certain to prevent, and as prompt to cure scurvy.

I am sir, very respectfully, yours,

M. Clendennin,
Surgeon U. S. V.,
Asst. Med. Director, Dept. of Cumberland.

The troops above referred to have been so long deprived of an adequate supply of fresh vegetables, that, unless the deficiency be speedily supplied, scurvy to such an extent as to materially impair their efficiency during the spring campaign is inevitable. As it is impossible to supply them in sufficient quantities in the ordinary form, I would earnestly recommend the plan above referred to by Dr. Read.

J. Perkins, U. S. V.,
Medical Director, 20th Army Corps.

From what I know of the condition of the troops referred to above, I do not hesitate to recommend that potatoes, prepared as specified, be furnished the Army, as necessary to place it in condition for the coming campaign. *Fresh vegetables cannot be supplied in sufficient quantities, and the necessity of such diet is very urgent.

A. J. Phelps,
Medical Director, 4th Army Corps.

In addition to this, I would also suggest that the Commission furnish, say one hundred barrels of the meal of parched corn.

Take common corn, brown it in the large cylinders used for browning coffee, until it is brittle, then grind it. I believe from my own observation of the Confederate soldiers, and of the negroes, who use corn meal instead of flour, that compared with flour it is anti-scorbutic.

At all events, this would make a nutritious and palatable diet, which would be sought after eagerly. I am informed by those who have tried it, that mixed with cold water it soaks soft, and is very palatable, and that with sugar, it makes a very good pudding.

Yours, very truly,

A. N. Read.

A VISIT TO THE HOSPITAL DIRECTORY.

The Central Office of the United States Sanitary Commission is located at the old residence of John Quincy Adams, No. 244 F Street, a short distance from Willard's Hotel. One of the upper rooms of this building is occupied by that department of the Commission, known as the "Hospital Directory."

At this office four or five clerks are employed, three of whom are regularly engaged in entering the names of soldiers in large books. These names are copied from the daily reports of the hospitals in the District of Columbia, Baltimore, Chesapeake, Beaufort, Hilton Head, Fernandina, St. Augustine, and several in New Orleans, numbering in all about fifty. Each one of these books numbers about three hundred pages, New York and Pennsylvania each requiring two volumes. As there have been sick and wounded from every regiment in the Eastern Department, so each State has a record in

*The potato pickled or preserved in molasses is only intended to be used when it cannot be furnished fresh. But so difficult will it be to furnish a supply, our soldiers should be induced to eat them raw.

one or more of these books. The 69th New York Volunteers, for instance, we find by referring to the index, is on the —th page. Like every other page, it has the following printed headings, each having its proper space, and being appropriately ruled off: "Date of Admission," "Hospital," "Name," "Rank," "Company," "Died," "Discharged," "Returned to Duty," "Furloughed," "Deserted," "Transferred." For instance: Patrick Smith is received at Lincoln Hospital, November 10. The report indicates his admission at that date; so under "date of admission," is written "November 10;" under "hospital" is written "Lincoln;" under "name" is written "Smith, Patrick;" under "rank" is written "P" (for "private") and under "company" is written "F," or whatever it may be. Perhaps, in a short time a morning report from Lincoln Hospital informs the clerks that Patrick has returned to duty. His name is found, and under that heading the date is written—say December 15; or, Patrick may have received a furlough to visit his friends. Then, under "furloughed" is written "December 15." Thus it will be seen that the soldier who gets in the hospital, however rarely he may have written home, or however widely his letters may have miscarried, is almost certain to be easily traced out by any anxious friend, or relative, writing or applying to the Sanitary Commission, and answers are given free of all charge. There are, however, exceptions to this easy method of finding the soldier. It sometimes happens that, from some peculiar whim or other, the soldier does not furnish his proper name at the hospital. Others may be deliriously ill when received, and unable to give a reliable name. Some of the Germans, and, indeed Americans, have such peculiar sounding names, that they get sadly misspelled after two or three copyings, but they may be easily identified by the rank and company they were in, and by their "given" name.

We think that many in the country would be greatly astonished at the peculiarity of the names of some of our brave boys. The most remarkable one we ever saw was that of a Western soldier, who was bravely defending the old flag under the appellation of "January Blackbird." The number of names now registered upon the books at Washington alone, is about 200,000! The greater portion of these have been returned to duty or honorably discharged.

The correspondence of the Directory is one of its most interesting features. When inquiries are received asking information of soldiers whose names are not on the books of the office, a letter is addressed, in nearly every instance, to the Surgeon of the soldier's regiment, or to one of the branch offices at Louisville or Philadelphia. The method and detail with which this is done challenge our admiration, as indicating the care taken to secure the most certain information. For instance: a letter is received from Mrs. Jones, a lady in New York City, who has not heard from her son Samuel, a private in the 200th New York Volunteers, Company B, in five months. She feels an intense anxiety. She has heard of the Sanitary Commission, and writes, despondently, for information. The soldier's name does not appear on the books. The Chief Clerk writes to the Surgeon of the regiment. In a book entitled "Applications," he makes the following entry: First, the date of application; next, the name of the soldier inquired for, thus—Jones, Samuel, 200th New York Volunteers, Company B; next, the number of the application, say 2,400; next, the applicant, Mrs. Jane Jones, 274 —— Street, New York; next, thus—Wrote Surgeon of regiment, such a date; then, Mrs. Jones' letter of application is endorsed "2,400," and carefully filed away. Then, the clerk takes a blank form, the printed and written matter of which will read substantially as follows: "Information is earnestly desired regarding Samuel Jones, of the 200th New York Volunteers, Company B. When last heard from, he was with his regiment at New Orleans, La., which was five months since. His mother has great anxiety about him. Please reply upon this sheet at your earliest convenience." The sheet is registered at the top "2,400," and addressed to the Surgeon of the 200th New York Volunteers. A stamped envelope, addressed to the Hospital Directory, is enclosed. In the course of a few weeks there arrives one day, among a number of letters, a sheet headed "2,400." It is the same the clerk sent to the Surgeon of the 200th. The Surgeon has written, "Samuel Jones, of Company E, 200th New York Volunteers, of which regiment I am Surgeon in charge, was taken sick about four months since and sent to Barracks' Hospital, New Orleans, and only last week returned to duty, and is now with his regiment. Not getting letters from home, he has neglected to write, but agrees to do so right away." The clerk seeks out Application No. 2,400, that was so carefully laid away, and puts with it its duplicate number, the answer, and writes the welcome news to Mrs. Jane Jones. He then endorses the application as answered at such a date, turns to No. 2,400 in the "Application Book," and in a blank space, left for the purpose, writes the date and abstract of his reply to Mrs. Jones. When we say, in addition to this, that

the letter to Mrs. Jones is written in copying ink, and afterwards copied into a book, the reader will see the vast amount of care and labor bestowed upon this important branch of the Hospital Directory.

We have merely supposed a case, but it is intended as an easily understood illustration of the manner in which every letter of that class is attended to. It is true that sad news is received sometimes, which it is not pleasant to communicate directly to the anxious relatives; but we feel convinced, from the manifest interest in this department, that sorrowful things would be as gently imparted as possible, and with a sympathetic heart for the mourning mother, or brother, or sister, to whom the letter might be written.

When the Surgeon writes with startling brevity: "John, of whom you inquire, was killed at Chickamauga, September 20, and afterwards buried on the field;" or, "George, of whom you desire information, was severely wounded on the 2d July at Gettysburg, and died on the 8th of that month in regimental hospital," it is very sad to re-write these facts to the widowed mother, or the only brother and sister, whose hope has been alive at all times, though only upheld by uncertainty.

But there are other letters than these that are painful to write; for example, "Private Jacob ——, of the —th Maine Volunteers, Company K, deserted from this regiment on the 10th of November, and has not since been heard from." The clerk tells us that he had rather write to such a man's friends that he had died of the most lingering and painful disease than to send them *such* a record. Another sad case is such as this, and not unfrequently, we understand: "Henry ——, of the —th Iowa Volunteers, was last seen in the engagement of ————, and, as his body was not found, is supposed to have been taken prisoner by the rebels."

But we were glad to learn that whatever satisfaction there may be in allaying the anxieties and fears of friends with even the worst tidings --giving them gloomy certainties such as we have noted—it is much oftener the pleasing task of the clerk to write such a letter as this: "Your son is well and on duty with his regiment, as late as two weeks since. A letter addressed ————, will be quite certain to reach him;" or this: "It affords me pleasure to inform you that your brother, though severely wounded, as you had heard, at the battle of Chickamauga, is slowly recovering at 11th Corps Hospital." We saw some of the letters received, and were permitted to take a few notes. A letter from Yorkshire, England, commences its address with "My Lord," desiring news of John C——, who had not been heard of for fifteen months. He was answered that John C—— had been in an hospital in Arkansas, but was well and again with his regiment.

A lady in Connecticut, after making an inquiry, writes: "A few days ago a poor woman told me these things about her son, saying she never expected to hear from him again—supposing he was dead. She was told about the Sanitary Commission—how they so often gave the information desired—and I offered to write for her, and see if any thing reliable could be obtained from such limited knowledge of facts." The son was found in a Southern hospital, where he had been for some time, but expected to be discharged soon. Upon communicating the facts to the lady who wrote for the information, another letter was received from her, which is *so good* and so cheering to every worker in the Commission that we gladly avail ourselves of the permission to make the following extract: "I have not yet seen ————'s mother, but will venture to make immediate return of *thanks* in her behalf for the large benefit she has received through your instrumentality, Had I a friend in such a case I should consider a full expression of my gratitude impossible; or, that my best efforts in behalf of such an organization, that could afford such relief, could never compensate for value received. I confess that, with all my faith in the Commission, I am surprised and no less gratified at the success of your investigation, because of the meagerness of the facts I sent you. As long as there is need for noble effort to relieve the sorrows of our Nation's mighty heart may the Sanitary Commission be sustained and blessed."

A Minister writes: "There is a lady in my church who has several sons in the Army, one of whom has been missing since last ——. He was captured by Mosby, I think, in one of his raids. Mrs. —— is an earnest worker for the good of the soldiers, and any expense you may incur in ascertaining his whereabouts will be cheerfully met."

A letter from a lady in Liverpool, England, says: "Pardon the liberty of writing to you if you will inform me if you have any connection with the American War, as I am desirous to hear from my husband, ————, from whom I have not heard since June, 1862." A very few facts were given as a basis upon which to find him, but in a few weeks she was answered with the very gratifying information that her husband was on duty with his regiment in December last.

And so might we give many more extracts

from many other letters, all showing one natural and uniform feeling—that of anxiety. If it cost something to pay for the services of those who are discharging the duties pertaining to this great philanthropic work; if it cost something to pay for the postage stamps and stationery used, who, with only a general knowledge of the magnitude of the work, even in this department of it, who shall the money come from? Who shall put a price upon the relief to a mother's aching heart, every throb of which is an echo to her constant thought of her son, who went from her to fight his country's battles? If the Sanitary Commission relieves the pain, with certainty of his present health and honorable conduct, or with the sad, but authenticated message that he has found a soldier's grave; is there a price to be put upon it? And as to one is brought certainty, so it is brought to thousands. If, in giving to this noble cause, the people impoverish themselves, or could be said even to "feel" the amounts which, according to their various pecuniary conditions, they may contribute, there would be a plausible excuse for censuring what may be termed a mistaken philanthropy. But, thank Heaven, the National outpouring of practical philanthropy which is commanding the admiration of the whole World is not burdensome; it is the frank, outspoken, and earnest expression of the loyal people—a token of the love they bear to their country and its brave defenders. Let us hope that the United States Sanitary Commission may retain its justly earned popularity by a continuance in its present sphere of usefulness, as long as the war shall cause the necessity of its existence.—*Washington Chronicle, Feb.* 16.

LETTERS IN OUR DRAWER.

We have in our hands a number of letters and reports from various quarters, for which we cannot find space in this number, and which are, nevertheless, too interesting to be passed over without notice. Dr. Newberry writes from Louisville, (Feb. 11,) that Dr. Warriner, one of his Aids, had gone to Cincinnati to stimulate the exertions of the Branch Commission in that city, in forwarding supplies to the force which General Sherman was then collecting at Vicksburg for the expedition whose fate we are at this moment all watching with so much anxiety. The result was the preparation of one thousand packages, which were sent down the Mississippi by a steamer chartered for the purpose, and which took in additional supplies at Cairo and Louisville. Dr. Warriner went down in her, for the purpose of making a tour of inspection amongst our agencies in Mississippi. The demand for anti-scorbutics in the Western Armies was more urgent than ever, and continued, in spite of the dispatch of very large quantities by the Commission, to be far greater than the supply. But Dr. Newberry was in hopes that as soon as the weather would permit the transport of vegetables from the North, to pour in such a supply into General Grant's Army as would give scurvy its quietus. Beyond some changes in the position of our agencies in Tennessee and Kentucky, and the establishment of a new "Soldiers' Home" at Camp Nelson, Kentucky, nothing had occurred to disturb the ordinary routine of our work in that quarter. Our relations with the Christian Commission and the military authorities were perfectly harmonious.

Dr. Seymour furnishes some interesting particulars of his inspection of the troops at Knoxville. He reached that place on the 24th January, after the usual toils and perils on the road, with one hundred and eighty packages of stores, and, as usual, found them sorely needed. The Surgeons reported their patients as in "a destitute condition," and Dr. Seymour made such distributions amongst them as the emergency seemed to require or his means would permit. He has succeeded in making arrangements for transport from Chattanooga, which will keep him supplied with sixty or ninety packages a week. Of the hospitals at Knoxville, he says:

> I have made a thorough inspection of all the hospitals. My first visit was made immediately after my arrival here. I found the hospitals and men in a sad condition, with the exception of Hospital No. 1 and its branch, which was comparatively very comfortable. In the others more than half of the men were lying on the floor with nothing but blankets. The wards filthy, cooking and washing arrangements bad, and in many instances no accommodations at all for washing. Police of grounds bad. Sinks abominable, and the town generally the most filthy of any I ever had the misfortune to be in.
>
> In justice, I should say that the Surgeons in charge are not to be held accountable for the condition of their hospitals, not having been provided with the means to remedy the evil.
>
> I am happy to say a great change has taken place within a few days.
>
> Government has been able to furnish them

with many necessary articles, much needed, which, with the aid we have been able to give them in stores, the efficient efforts of the Medical Director of the department, Dr. Hewitt, and of the Post Director, Dr. Shippan, together with the united efforts of the Surgeons in charge, the hospitals are now in a very fair condition, and daily improving in every respect.

Of articles wanted, I may say every thing. Those most needed are eatables of all kinds. Vegetables, pickles, krout, fruit, crackers, delicacies, stimulants, ale, cordials, wines, (blackberry wine is much inquired for,) bandages, rollers, shirts, drawers, and socks.

The general health of the men in this department is fast improving. The last ten days has given them rest, which is what they very much needed.

The matter of hospital gardens has been engaging the attention of our laborers both East and West. With a perennial cry for vegetables coming from every camp, post and hospital at the seat of war, it has seemed to them absurd, with a teeming soil under their feet, and in one of the finest climates in the world, to be entirely dependent on the scanty contributions, which at most seasons are all that our frosty North can send. Dr. Newberry says in the letter mentioned above:

We have taken up the matter of hospital gardens with considerable energy; have sent out seeds and tools for large gardens at Murfreesboro', Tullahoma, Chattanooga and Knoxville, and shall do what is necessary to make each a success. We have been urged to this action by all the medical and military authorities, and everything indicates that our prompt intervention in the matter is called for by both our humanity and self-interest.

Dr. Page, one of our Inspectors, writes from Washington on the same subject:

I wrote you yesterday a hasty line in reference to our projected hospital garden, and enclosed a list of seed wanted to carry out the plan. By the interest of Gen. Peck, we have secured the disposal of fifty acres of good land. of proper exposure; some of the coarser implements, such as ploughs, hoes, &c., have been obtained from the service. Any amount of manure is at hand, and the transportation furnished; and the labor is secured partly by volunteers from the soldiery, and partly from detailed contrabands. An intelligent Lieutenant of the 19th Wisconsin has charge of the practical working of the farm, and there is much of emulation and intelligent zeal among the volunteer yeomen-soldiers engaged. It will teach them a lesson of the yield of this soil, and of its capabilities under our warm sun and long season, which will surprise and delight them.

I am encouraging. in every way, the disposition of our hospital surgeons, stewards, and others to establish gardens, large and small. My own little *patch* of last year and this winter seems to act as a strong stimulant. The movement will be a God-send, literally, to our troops.

* * * * * *

I hope you will express the agricultural matters by first opportunity. Perhaps, it would not be unwise to suggest to seedsmen, if they are desirous to have any untried varieties of seeds given a fair and intelligent trial in this climate, that they forward them, with the proper directions.

* * * * * *

There is more on this same subject in the report on the operations of the Commission in Tennessee, to be found elsewhere.

The want of a Soldiers' Home in Brashear City has been long felt, for the comfort and relief of soldiers passing to and fro between the Téche country and New Orleans, many of them, of course, sick, or convalescent. Mr. Abbott accordingly organized one about the middle of last December. Chaplain Barker, who is acting as our Special Relief Agent in that quarter, sends us some information as touching its condition and results. A suitable building was procured, cleaned, and fitted up with conveniences for sleeping, cooking, and subsisting the men as they came. A colored man does the cooking, a colored woman every thing else. A private of the 91st N. Y. V. acts as a guard and works as a carpenter. A Sergeant of the same regiment is the Superintendent; and the Chaplain himself is, as we have said, Special Relief Agent; or, as he calls himself, "servant of all work." In the first fortnight of January, 231 men were admitted, 671 meals and 250 lodgings furnished. The Commission had done some good work at Brashear City before this, however, as appears from the following letter to Dr. Blake, our Agent at New Orleans, written so long ago as November 23d:

BRASHEAR CITY, LA.,
November 23*d*, 1863.

DEAR SIR—Your prompt response to my appeal in behalf of the sick of the 91st New York Vounteers, commands my respect and gratitude. The sheets, pillow and bed ticks, and the shirts, napkins and drawers, could not, in my opinion, have been more judiciously bestowed. For example: prior to the arrival of your supply there was not a sheet, nor even a part of one in the hospital, and at the same time we had some seven cases of typhoid fever. The hospital stores were no less welcome, and all of them proved to be of the very best quality. The Sanitary Commision, through its private agents, has done, and is still doing much for the care and comfort of the sick in the loyal United States Army. It cannot be otherwise than grati-

fying to you to be the almoner of such a benevolent Commission. I feel under many obligations to you for your kindness to my patients, and shall always remember you with emotions of gratitude.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
ROBERT MORRIS,
Surgeon 91st New York Volunteers.

"An Engineer Officer" on Folly Island, S.C., sends us ten dollars for the following reason:

My observation of the practical working of the Sanitary Commission has convinced me that it is in every way deserving of the aid and support of Christian men and patriots.

Inspectors of the Sanitary Commission report much to its Central Office that is "contraband," but would be most inspiriting to the people, could it be made public. For instance, a regiment of Union recruits from a camp of rebel prisoners—no matter where—has been duly visited and examined on the course of the Commission's work of Sanitary Inspection—and is reported to be among the best regiments in the national service. Its men think secession used up, and are so happy with the clean clothes and the sufficient food they get from the nation, that they are prepared to fight for the country to the death, against Secession and Rebellion.

It is interesting to note that among the first questions suggested for the consideration of the recent Sanitary Conference of Representatives of old Christian civilized powers, was this:—"If a wounded soldier seem past hope of recovery, is it, or is it not, desirable that he be killed by some humane process, so as to save him from suffering, and to economize the labors of attendants on the sick and wounded?"

Let us try to imagine a like proposition introduced at a session of the Sanitary Commission, or of some Congressional Committee!

Perhaps we Americans are not utter barbarians after all?

A FOREIGN OPINION OF THE COMMISSION.

We Americans are not yet quite rid of the habit of looking anxiously across the Atlantic for a word of approval of whatever we do, as a child watches the eye of its mother. The treatment we have received from that quarter during the last three years has been so far from sympathetic or maternal, that this feeling is fast dying out, and with it is disappearing much that has made us practically provincial and too sensitively uneasy about foreign opinion. But we still like to know that any American work is commended in England, which has found so little to commend in our sacrifices to sustain our national existence, and to oppose the lawless aggressions of a Slavery system which she forced upon us when we were her colonies, and educated us by example, argument, and invective to dislike and discourage after we had become an independent nation. It is gratifying, therefore, to find in the November number of *Good Words*, (a religious magazine of very great circulation, published in London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow,) at page 814, a most eulogistic notice of the work of the Sanitary Commission.

It speaks of the Commission as "the most perfect and thorough organization which has been called forth by the needs of the times;" and proceeds to say that—

"Under its auspices the sanitary regulations of the Army are cared for, large stores and supplies kept ready and sent forward, whenever a battle is looked for, so that, in the hurry and confusion which ensues, all that the Surgeons need, and which Government cannot always supply, is at hand. Æther for amputations, bandages, lint, stimulants, and nourishment of every sort, are supplied.

"After the terrible battle of Gettysburg, when the fearful storm of shot and shell had left thousands in the field, and the Surgeons were endeavoring to do what medical skill might, to save life, one who was on the spot says he can never forget the gratitude with which they saw store-wagons of the Sanitary Commission coming up.

"'Thank God,' said the Surgeon, 'here come the Sanitary supplies; now we shall do well.'

"The Commission has its Central Office in Washington, and from thence radiate, as from a great center, streams of help and comfort, reaching the Army wherever it is doing its work, and like a good angel, watching and waiting to offer blessings. Under its direction railway ambulances have been fitted up with comfortable beds, arranged for the transportation of the sick and wounded, who are to be sent farther north; beds hung so that the motion of the carriage does not jar them. A surgeon and nurses have charge of these ambulances, and with them is connected a newly-invented cooking apparatus, in compact form, where food can be prepared, water boiled, tea or gruel made ready, or any other nourishment required. On one occasion fifty men were brought from Washington to New York, a distance of at least 300 miles. Their food being prepared entirely in this little *ex tempore* kitchen connected with the railway carriage, exhaustion was avoided, and in some cases life actually saved.*

* It is, perhaps, well to add that the "United States Sanitary Commission" is purely voluntary, organized as an aid to the Government in its immense labor. No service done by its members is other than a willing offering to the good cause, and this gives a double value to its far-reaching work. One tribute to its worth has come from a source rather unlooked for, and may be mentioned here. A letter has been sent to General Lee, (rebel commander-in-chief,) signed by twelve rebel Surgeons, now prisoners at Gettysburg, requesting the release of several Sanitary Agents taken in battle, and now in prison at Richmond. They say that the wounded of their army have received such help and comfort from the Sanitary Commission, that it seems only justice to release those who were taken while engaged in a work of mercy, and to recognize them as non-combatants.

"Another good arrangement is a Lodge, established in Washington, where the discharged soldier, waiting, perhaps, for his pay, may go and find a bed, good lodging, and meat, free of charge, before he is sent on his way. Some thousands have had help and comfort from the Sanitary Commission in this way, and been saved from temptation—perhaps, from ruin.

"In connection with the Central Office of the Commission, at Washington, a branch is established in each of our large cities, as a depot where boxes are received which come in from the country. Each little town or village has an Aid Society, as an auxiliary to the great center, where clothing is made up, and articles of various kinds contributed. Thus, as it were, a great net-work is formed over our land; or, to express it better, each little rill pours in its stream to the main ocean, the treasury, whence it flows out again, to refresh and sustain the Army.

"The boxes which arrive are opened, the contents assorted, marked with the stamp of the Commission, and re-packed, each kind of article together. Thus, a box containing five or seven hundred shirts can be sent to the field hospital, and obviate all trouble to Surgeons or Sanitary Agents on the spot. Jellies, wines, brandies, and preserved fruits, condensed milk, and many similar stores, are also sent in this way.

"In times of great emergency, the Sanitary Commission has sent out supplies to the amount of $1,000 (or £200,) a day, and it may be well to mention that California, from the shores of the Pacific, thousands of miles distant, has sent her offering of $500.000 (£100,000,) to aid in this good work; adding, that when the Commission needs further help, the same amount will be sent again. The proof thus given of the confidence felt in the work, and of the value of a plan working on so large a scale, is very encouraging.

"The Branch Office sometimes furnishes a sort of center, where soldiers in distress, on their way home, discharged, or in any need, may find a helping hand. One little incident which happened this summer will prove the truth of this statement. One sultry afternoon, just before the hour of closing the rooms, a soldier, worn with travel, and evidently troubled and in distress, came into the office. He told his story. He had, he said, a furlough; named his regiment; but on the way his transportation papers and furlough had been lost. He was a stranger, with no one to prove the truth of his story, was without money, and his home in Maine was at least 500 miles distant. What was to be done? Would the Sanitary Commission help him? Fortunately, one of the gentlemen connected with the office was present; and, although he was struck by the manner and bearing of the man, and inclined to trust him, it would not do to act without a telegram to the Medical Director, to confirm the truth of the story. In due time the wires sent back the reply, the man's statement was confirmed, his name, regiment, furlough, were all correct—he was sent on from Washington to his home, just as he said. The Sanitary Agent then offered him money for his expenses home; and added, that he must receive it as a free gift from the United States Sanitary Commission. He had been unfortunate, and had applied to those whose duty and pleasure it was to help the soldier in his time of need. He hesitated, seemed much touched with the kindness, and then with an effort—

"'God bless you, sir,' he said. 'I see now *who* sent this help to me, and if you'll allow me, sir, I'll tell you all.'

"He then said that he was in great distress, after losing his papers; he was a stranger in Philadelphia, had no money, and did not know what to do, or where to go. As he walked through the railway station he saw a roll of papers lying on the ground; on picking it up, he found it contained the furlough and transportation papers of another man, dropped, probably, just as his own had been. At first, he thought nothing of it, until the quick suggestion of the Tempter flashed upon him, 'Why not use them? I am a stranger on this railway; these papers will enable me to get home; no one knows my name, why not use them, &c.?' and some companions with him told him not to be a fool, and throw away his good luck. He hesitated, and then he said the thought of his wife came to him, and how she had told him, when he went to the War two years ago, that she gave him to his country without grudging, and that all she asked of him was not to lose his love of truth and of his duty to his God, and 'How could I go back and look into her eyes, if I had *acted* this untruth?'

"So *the good* prevailed, and what wonder that the God whose law he struggled to keep, raised up friends for him, and sent him on his way with that best of blessings—a good conscience!

"Another department of labor which should not be omitted, is the removal of the sick and wounded in hospital transports, on the Eastern and Western rivers. These transports, furnished and fitted up by the Commission with every necessary, supply important aid to the Government in its arduous work. Eight thousand wounded men were thus brought home after the terrible battles of Fair Oaks and the Peninsular battles in the summer of 1862; the details of this work may be found in a little book of much interest, made up of extracts from the letters written by nurses and surgeons engaged in it, and just given to the public.

"The Sanitary Commission does not want its martyrs, who have laid down their lives for their country as nobly and as truly as if the cannon ball or the bayonet had sent them to their last account, instead of the slower process resulting from exposure or malaria."

WESTERN SCENES.—No. 1.

A DAY AT THE ROOMS OF THE SANITARY COMMISSION.

It is early morning—not nine o'clock—for the children are flocking in happy droves to school, making the sweet summer air resonant with their joyous treble and musical laugh, as with clustering, golden heads and interlacing white arms, they recount their varied experiences since the parting of the night before, and rapturously expatiate on the delights of a coming excursion, or promised picnic. With a

good-by kiss, we launch our own little folks, bonneted and sacqued, and ballasted with books like the rest, into the stream of childhood, that is setting in, strong and full, towards the school room, and then catch the street car, that leaves us at the rooms of the "Chicago Sanitary Commission."

But early as is our arrival, a dray is already ahead of us, unloading its big boxes, and little boxes, barrels and firkins, baskets and bundles, at the door of the Commission. The sidewalk is barricaded with the multiform packages, which John, the porter, with his inseparable truck, is endeavoring to stow away in the "Receiving Room." Here hammers, hatchets, wedges and chisels are in requisition, compelling the crammed boxes to disgorge their heterogeneous contents, which are rapidly assorted, stamped, re-packed, re-boxed and re-shipped, their stay in the room rarely exceeding a few hours.

We enter the office. Ladies are in waiting who desire information. The Aid Society in another State, of which they are officers, has raised, at a Fourth of July Festival, some six hundred dollars, and they wish to know how it shall be disposed of, so as to afford the greatest amount of relief to the sick and wounded of our Army. They are also instructed to investigate the means and method of the Commission, so as to carry conviction to a few obstinate skeptics, who persist in doubting if the Sanitary Commission, after all, be the best means of communication with the hospitals. Patiently and courteously, the history, method, means, aims and success of the Commission are lucidly explained for the hundredth time in a month, and all needed advice and instruction imparted—and the enlightened women leave.

An express messenger enters. He brings a package of money, obtains his fee, gets receipted for the package, and, without a word, departs. Next comes a budget of letters—the morning's mail. One announces the shipment of boxes of hospital stores which will arrive to-day—another scolds roundly, because a letter sent a week ago has not been answered—which *has* been answered, as the copying-book indisputably attests, but has been miscarried—a third has a bug-a-boo, mythical story to relate of surgeons and nurses in a distant hospital, with a large development of alimentiveness, who care little for their patients, being mainly occupied in "seeking what they can devour" of the hospital delicacies—a fourth pleads earnestly and eloquently that the writer may be sent as a nurse to the sad, cheerless, far away hospitals—a fifth is the agonized letter of a mother and widow, blistered with tears, begging piteously that the Commission will search out and send to her tidings of her only son,

"Scarce more than a boy with unshaven face,
Who marched away with a star on his breast,"

and has not been heard from since the battle of Grand Gulf—a sixth seeks information concerning the organization of an Aid Society in a remote town, which has just awakened to its duty—a seventh is a letter from nine-year-old little girls who have earned five dollars and wish it spent for the "poor, sick soldiers"—God bless the dear children!—an eighth begs that one of the ladies of the Commission will visit the Society in her town, and re-kindle the flagging zeal of the tired workers, who forget that our brave men stop not in their marches, and postpone not their battles and their victories, because of the heat or of weariness—a ninth announces the death of one of our heroic nurses, who was sent by the Commission a few months ago to Tennessee, a blue-eyed, broad-browed, serious-faced, comely girl, with heart loyal as steel, and soul on fire with patriotic yearning to do something for her country, and who has now given her life—and so on through a package of twenty, thirty and sometimes forty letters. Now commences the task of replying to these multitudinous epistles—a work which is interrupted every five minutes by some new comer.

A venerable, white-haired man enters. He has been here before, and we immediately recognize him. "Have you heard from my son, in Van Buren's Hospital, at Milliken's Bend?" "Not yet, sir; you know it is only nine days since I wrote to inquire for him. I will telegraph if you are not able to wait for a letter." "No matter," and the old man's lip quivers, his figure trembles visibly, his eyes fill with tears, he chokes, and can say no more. We understand it all—our heart warms towards him, for *our* father, a thousand miles away, is like him, white-haired and feeble—we raise, and offer our hand. The old man's hand closes convulsively upon it; he leans his head against the iron pillar near our desk, and his tears drip—drip—steadily on the hand he holds.

"He has only gone a little before you," we venture to say; "it is but a short distance from you to him now."

"Yes," adds the heart-broken father, "and he gave his life for a good cause—a cause worthy of it, if he had been a thousand times dearer to me than he was."

"And your boy's mother—how does she bear this grief?"

He shakes his head, and again the tears drip—drip—drip—on the hand he has still retained.

"She'll see him before I do; this will kill her."

What shall assuage the sorrow of these aged parents, bereft of the son of their old age by the cruel war which Slavery has invoked? Sympathy, tears, comfort is prof-

fered the aching heart, and after a little, the sorrowing father turns again to his desolate home.

A childish figure drags itself into the room, shuffles heavily along, sinks into a chair, and offers a letter. What ails the little fellow, whose face is so bright and beautiful, and yet so tinged with sadness? We open the letter and read. He is a message-boy from Admiral Porter's gun-boat, who is sent home with the Admiral's written request that the child be properly taken care of. Not yet thirteen years old, and yet he has been in battles, and has run the gauntlet of the Vicksburg battles, which, for ten miles, belched forth red-hot and steel-pointed shot and shell, which yet failed to sink the dauntless and invulnerable iron-clads. Fever, too much medicine, neglect and exposure, have done their worst for the little fellow, who has come North, homeless and friendless, with the left side paralyzed. He is taken to the exquisite care and tenderness of the "Soldiers' Home," for the present.

Who next? A bevy of nurses enter, bearing carpet-bags, shawls and bundles. We have telegraphed them that the hospitals at Memphis need them, and straightway they have girded themselves to the work. One is a widow, whose husband fell at Shiloh—another is the wife of a Lieutenant, at Vicksburg—a third lost her brother at Chancellorville, and almost hopes through the work of the hospital, to find the portal of the "happy land," whither he has vanished. They receive their instructions, commissions and transportation, and hasten onward. God guide you, brave, noble, little women!

Ah! that white, anxious mother's face, whiter and more anxious than ever, is again framed in the door-way. Is there, this time, no escape from it? One, two, three, four days, she has haunted these rooms, waiting the answer to a telegram dispatched to Gettysburg, where her darling only boy was wounded, ten days ago. The answer to the telegram is in our pocket—but how shall we repeat its stern speech to the white-faced and sorrow-stricken mother? We leave our desk, and involuntarily bustle about, as if in search of something, for we *cannot* tell her. There is no need—the morning papers have revealed her desolation to her, and she has only come to secure the help of the Commission in obtaining possession of the remains of her dead. There are no tears, no words of grief, only a still agony, a repressed anguish, which it is painful to witness. All that can be done is freely accorded her, and bowed and staggering under her heavy affliction, she goes forth on her sacred pilgrimage to recover her dead. Alas! how many thousand mothers are, at this hour, refusing to be comforted because their children are not!

Soldiers from the city hospitals next visit us, to beg a shirt, a pair of slippers, a comb, or a pin-cushion—and to talk of their sufferings and privations, and their anxiety to get well and rejoin their regiments. They are praised heartily, petted in the most approved motherly fashion, and sent back altogether lighter hearted than they came.

And so the day wears away. More loaded drays drive up to the door, and disburse barrels of crackers, ale, pickles, sour krout and potatoes; and boxes of shirts, drawers, tea, condensed milk and beef, &c., which are speedily set *en route* for the hospitals. Men and women come and go, to visit, to make inquiries, to ask favors, to offer services, to utter complaints, to bring news from Vicksburg, Memphis, Murfreesboro' or Nashville hospitals, to make donations of money, to retail their sorrows, and sometimes to idle away an hour in the midst of the writing, packing, wheeling, nailing and hurrying of this busy place.

The sun declines westward—its fervid heat is abating—the hands of the clock point to five or six and sometimes seven—and wearied in body, and saturated, mentally, with the passing streams of others' sorrows, we again hail the street car, which takes us back once more to our pleasant home, with its cheerful companionship, and the prattle and merriment and thoughtless gaiety of children. Five days of the seven, when not visiting some of the numerous auxiliaries of the Commission, scattered all over the Northwest, we spend in these rooms, amid scenes like those we have described, which must serve as our excuse for continued neglect of friends and correspondents.—*Mrs. Mary A. Livermore.*

THE PRISONERS AT RICHMOND.

The following correspondence explains itself:

U. S. Sanitary Commission,
Adams' House, 244 F Street,
Washington, D. C., *February* 20, 1864.

Dr. Jenkins,
General Secretary, U. S. Sanitary Commission, N. Y.

My Dear Sir—The letter referred to me by you makes complaint that money was demanded of the officers in Libby Prison, for clothing furnished them by the Agents of the Sanitary Commission.

Through some mistake, Gen. Neal Dow, (when clothing was first distributed in Libby from the Commission,) informed the officers that they would be expected, when convenient, to return to the Commission an equivalent for the clothing. (He supposing, I presume, that these supplies were entrusted to the Commission by the people for the benefit of privates only.) As soon as this was known at this office,

notice was sent to Gen. Neal Dow and others, that under no circumstances would money be received by Agents of the Sanitary Commission for clothing or supplies distributed by them, and that the officers, alike with privates, had a claim upon whatever we had in store.

The accompanying copies of letters will explain this.

An officer (Colonel,) this afternoon in this office, one of those recently escaped out of Libby, says that, "Some two or three months since Gen. Neal Dow announced in the Prison, and in his hearing, the message from the Commission—that *no pay was* to be taken for Sanitary supplies.

Respectfully, yours truly,

(Signed,) F. N. KNAPP,
Associate Secretary.

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December 15, 1863.

JAMES GALL, JR.,
U. S. Sanitary Commission, Norfolk, Va.:

DEAR SIR—The previous letter (one received to-day,) from Gen. Neal Dow to you, forwarded to this office, referred to the money due to the Commission by officers in Richmond Prison, for clothes, &c., furnished by the Commission.

The Commission *cannot receive any pay* for articles thus furnished; they are *a gift*, alike to officers and men, as I presume you have yourself informed Gen. Dow, and others in Richmond Prison, receiving supplies from the Sanitary Commission.

Will you send me a copy of your communication to him, or others, upon this point, with the date of its probable delivery to him. We wish to assure the people who place these supplies in our hands that we don't allow even officers, when in need, to make any money-return to the Commission.

Already, an officer, who had returned to his home from Richmond, sent in money for clothing received there. The money was returned to him.

Yours truly,

(Signed,) F. N. KNAPP,
Associate Secretary.

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SANITARY COMMISSION,
NORFOLK, VA., *December* 21, 1863.

MR. F. N. KNAPP,
Associate Secretary, Sanitary Commission:

DEAR SIR—Yours of the 15th inst. is just received. I have written two letters to Gen. Dow, one on the 1st and the other on the 8th inst., informing him that in no case could the Sanitary Commission receive pay for articles dispensed by it for the relief of suffering soldiers, be they officers or privates. I stated that if the officers should see fit to contribute in a general way to the funds of the Commission, with a view to aid in carrying out the work of relief with which the Commission is charged, well and good, but *that no specific payment* could be received for any articles furnished in this way. I also took pains to inform the ninety-six released Surgeons whom I accompanied from City Point to Washington, that no recompense whatever was expected, or would be received, by the Sanitary Commission for the articles with which we had furnished them in Prison.

I believe that our position in this respect is pretty well understood by Gen. Dow and his fellow prisoners.

Truly yours,

(Signed,) JAMES GALL, JR.

OUR SUPPLIES IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Dr. M. M. Marsh, Chief Inspector of the Department of the South, writing under date of February 4th, 1864, in addition to giving a full report of his operations for January, 1864, says:

"A critical re-inspection of most of the troops (in the vicinity of Charleston,) has been made within the last four (4) weeks, their wants ascertained and supplied, and their sanitary condition closely scrutinized. *The per centage of sickness in the force is very low.* It would not be proper to state here how low. Almost the only malady is chronic diarrhœa."

Dr. Marsh has endeavored, by a free issue of vegetables, to supplement the Government rations, and thus diminish the tendency to diseases arising from a want of variety in the food of the men. [See list of issues accompanying this.]

He says: "The Government rations are good; vegetables, however, are necessarily restricted in quantity, from distant transportation. The weather is delightful and salubrious. Small-pox exists among the contrabands, but very few soldiers have taken the disease, thus showing the preventive power of vaccination." [Additional vaccine virus will be sent to Dr. Marsh.]

"White refugees from Florida and elsewhere are amongst us, in a state of great destitution. Very naturally, they call upon the Commission for aid." Dr. Marsh inquires whether such aid shall be continuously given. The answer to this question must depend upon the extent to which the people pour their offerings into the storehouses and the treasury of the Commission. Of course, our first duty is to the Federal soldier; but shall we not also be the almoner of the people for such way-worn and hungry fugitives from within the enemy's lines as would otherwise perish, until a better method of relief is devised? Indeed, in

every direction the calls upon the Relief Agents of the Commission are becoming more and more varied and imperative, and nothing but a perennial stream of stores and money can sustain it in the performance of its legitimate and growing functions; nor do we extend relief to any who do not, in some way, present claims that cannot be disregarded. The following list will show the issues made to hospitals and regiments for January:

ISSUES FOR JANUARY, 1864.

Dried fruit	24	bbls.
Crackers	28	"
Apples, fresh	118	"
Potatoes	130	"
Other vegetables	70	"
Pickles	14	"
Apple butter	1¾	"
Tamarinds	2¾	"
Hops	1	"
Ginger, extract	1	gross.
Jellies	92	cans.
Dom. Wine	70	bottles.
F. Wine	2	"
Lig. Ferri Nit	2	"
Stimulants	13	"
Cocoa	1	lbs.
Coffee	48	"
Chocolate	1	"
Condensed milk	102	"
Arrow root	6	"
Corn starch	12	"
Farina	12	"
Quinine	3	ozs.
Slippers, calf	60	pairs.
Drawers, woolen	100	"
Pantaloons	6	"
Shirts, woolen	392	"
Socks, "	112	"
Bandages, woolen	446	
Quilts	44	
Blankets	180	
Pillow cases	76	
Pillows	17	
Towels	132	
Handkerchiefs	120	
Wrappers	34	
Coats	2	
Vests	7	
Bed ticks	12	
Pillow ticks	12	
Sheets	250	
Combs	192	

DR. BLAKE, Inspector United States Sanitary Commission, in the Department of the Gulf, writing under recent date, in speaking of the wants of his department, says: Farinaceous food, condensed milk, dried fruit, woolen socks, shirts and drawers, are always in demand. Pickles, particularly onions and cabbage, are wanted, in large quantities. He says there is a great demand for hospital clothing.

SANITARY AFFAIRS IN NORFOLK.

[Extract of Report of JAMES GALL, JR., Relief Agent, Norfolk, Va., dated January 26th, 1864.]

"In a department of the Army where the troops are chiefly stationary, as in my department, and where the Sanitary Commission has become an old-established and well known institution, dispensing its supplies regularly and systematically, in quarters where they are most needed, and where they are depended upon, and looked for, as much as the regular Government supplies; there is but little of a novel or stirring character, to record in the weekly report of the Relief Agent. But, though there is not much for the agent to report, unless, perhaps, in a general way, there is nothing monotonous in the work he has to perform. However frequent his visits to regiments may be, he takes the same interest in a thoroughly policed and well drained camp; in neat, comfortable, regimental quarters; in well-conditioned hospitals, and the care and comfort of their inmates. And his interest makes him quick to detect, and ready to suggest an improvement. During the past week I have visited many of the camps and hospitals in different parts of the department, and am glad to be able to report a generally improved condition of both. The officers and men are aware of the fact that cleanliness of person, and a proper regard to the sanitary condition of the camp, are absolutely necessary to the preservation of health, and, as a consequence, the suggestions of the Surgeon, or of the Sanitary Commission Agent are, as a general thing, readily accepted and availed of.

"The supplies furnished by us during the week to the different hospitals have been particularly acceptable and beneficial, for the reason that the regular quarterly supplies of stores, due on the 1st inst., have not, in many cases, been delivered to the Surgeons yet, and for certain much needed articles they had to depend wholly on us. Thus, the Sanitary Commission has come to be considered an indispensable part of the Medical Department of the Army.

"Said an enthusiastic Surgeon to me the other day, whilst on my way from Yorktown to Fortress Monroe. 'The world has never seen as sublime a sight as that presented by the U. S. Sanitary Commission, with its immense and harmonious machinery, its trained agents, its accomplished and skillful medical inspectors and writers, and behind all, and *above* all, the generous, warm-hearted, patriotic *people*, who contribute so generously the immense quantities of supplies which the Sanitary Commission

dispenses to our sick soldiers. Yes, sir, when I think of the Sanitary Commission, I am proud of my country.'

"The Surgeon just quoted has been two years in the Army; is a man of large sympathies and high professional reputation; has seldom drawn any thing from the Commission, but has watched its workings closely, and appreciates it fully."

THE FIELD RELIEF ON THE POTOMAC.

Mr. Johnson, our Superintendent of Field Relief, with the Army of the Potomac, reports:

The demand for supplies of the Sanitary Commission during the present winter has been constant in the Army of the Potomac.

The agents who have been withdrawn from their location in the various corps to the depot at this place, have been busily employed visiting the hospitals, regiments, examining into the condition and wants of the sick, and giving such personal attention to the distribution of our supplies as seemed best calculated to insure their proper application. Although instances will occasionally occur in which our benefits have been diverted from the proper objects, it is a satisfaction to believe that they are daily becoming less frequent, and of less importance in their extent, and that almost the entire supplies distributed by this corps, are enjoyed by that class for whom they are designed.

* * * * *

Early in the morning of the 6th inst., rumors reached us that a portion of the army was on the move, and it was soon made known that the —— Corps was advancing in the direction of Raccoon Ford, and the —— Corps towards Morton's Ford, both on the Rapidan, south of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad.

Heavy artillery firing, about noon, showed that the enemy had been found. During the afternoon the —— Corps went forward, as supports.

Next day, in company with Dr. Fairchild, one of the Sanitary Inspectors, Mr. Holbrook and Mr. Clampitt, I rode to the front, to learn the particulars of the movement and provide what was required for the wounded. It appears that the —— Division of the —— Corps forded the Rapidan at Morton's Ford, about noon, and advanced nearly a mile, to the crest of the hills beyond, without finding the rebels in force. Shortly before dark they were attacked by a portion of Ewell's Corps, when a severe engagement ensued, lasting until after dark, and resulting in the withdrawal of the rebels to their earthworks. The —— Division of the —— Corps, now crossed the river to cover the return of the —— Division, which was accomplished without further loss, about midnight. Our dead, some fifteen in number, were buried, and our wounded, nearly two hundred in all, were carried on stretchers across the river, and placed in the ambulances, when they were taken to the hospitals of one of the brigades of the —— Division, near ——— ——. At the time of our visit the wounded were being taken to the Corps Hospital. We all went there, found that some of the sufferers had preceded, and that others were following us. On visiting the hospitals, and upon conversation with the Surgeons in charge, I FOUND THAT WARM UNDER-CLOTHING WAS WANTED BY NEARLY ALL THE NEW ARRIVALS.

The fight occurred about dark on Saturday. The men had forded the river, nearly waist-deep, and without any means of drying their clothes, had gone into battle, and many of them had fallen.

Their suffering, in this state of discomfort, from wet, cold and wounds, continued with slight alleviation until they reached the Corps Hospital, during Sunday afternoon, and were made tolerably comfortable. During the same afternoon our supplies of woolen shirts, drawers and socks, reached them, and were immediately used in exchange for the garments stained and saturated with blood. Every one of the many wounded men required a change, more or less complete, and, of course, as Government furnishes none but cotton under-clothing, our supply was almost indispensable to the comfort and welfare of the patients. Seeing that there was a great deficiency in surgical help, Dr. Fairchild very kindly assisted Dr. Dudley in dressing the wounded men, and spent several hours in this humane duty, until they had all been attended to. I believe that none of the troops of the First and Third Corps were under fire during this advance, and that the cavalry under Gens. Merritt and Kilpatrick escaped serious loss.

BACK PAY.

Mr. Brown reports, February 2d:

The amount of work done in my department, in Lodge No. 4, during the month of January, has been as follows:

Whole number of cases for back pay taken	93
Whole number completed by securing pay	60
Otherwise completed	23
Total number of completed cases	83
Amount represented by the sixty cases completed by securing pay	$2,744.90
Number of letters written	122

You will perceive that the amount secured the past month is less than half what was collected in December. There are various reasons for this. January is not a muster month, and I

have found that it is better not to press through new cases at the commencement of a non-muster month, for it frequently happens that before the muster-day of the alternate month comes round, that the man is transferred to some other department, and there is a difficulty in finding out his whereabouts. This would not occur, if men were transferred directly to their regiments. I find, however, that I can employ this time profitably in looking up tough cases, which require the collection of a large amount of evidence in order to establish their claim to back pay.

The first nineteen days of the past month were entirely spent on these old cases, only one new case being taken during that time.

One other reason for the diminished amount received has been that Mr. Pryme has been away seven or eight days on account of sickness, and I had the misfortune to contract a severe cold in the early part of the month, which has necessitated the suspension of evening work for a large share of the time since.

Many of the cases recently taken are from the Invalid Corps, although patients in the various hospitals here.

The accounts of these men are in a very complicated condition, some of them having been transferred from regiment to regiment several times. Many have been the rounds of a large number of hospitals and camps besides, and their condition is frequently such that they can give no intelligent account of themselves.

These men, having been away from their original regiments a long time, are frequently borne on the rolls as "deserters," "absent without leave," &c., &c., or more often dropped entirely.

In either case, it must be shown, by the certificates of commissioned officers, where the man has been for *every day* of the missing time.

I have succeeded in getting these charges removed in a number of cases where they had no foundation in fact. The accumulating evidence in some of the other cases, however, has shown that the charges were well founded. These I have relinquished on becoming satisfied on this point.

The correspondence necessary to carry on this branch of the work has been constantly increasing.

SCURVY.

Certain portions of our Army in the Southwest begin to exhibit a taint of what Doctors call a "scorbutic taint," and plain people, "a tendency to scurvy."

Perhaps some one of our readers does not understand the terrible meaning of these words, and thinks them about equal in significance to a "tendency to sore throat," or "diarrhœa." If so, let him ask the first educated physician, or old experienced sailor, what SCURVY is, when it finds its way into a camp or a whaling ship. He will be told that when either of these isolated little communities is visited by this fearful taint, every one of its members, soldier or sailor, loses a certain portion of that unknown force by which he is enabled to live, and in fact begins to die. He becomes listless, languid, and weary. Every wound, even a cut finger, refuses to heal. Every trifling ailment, every cold or indigestion, becomes malignant, and obstinately resists medicine. Old wounds and bruises that were forgotten twenty years ago, prove themselves to have been somehow mysteriously latent in his body all the time, for they re-appear and re open. Then, as this subtle taint gains further grasp of the patient, it displays its own independent symptoms, in the form of ulcerations, and swellings, and lacerating pains under which he perishes, inevitably by slow torture—gradually decomposing into death—unless a certain infallible remedy reach him in season.

And what is this remedy? It is no prescription that can be ordered at the apothecary's—no combination of drugs about which the doctors can differ, but simply (hear it, ye Farmers of New England and New York, and the great fruitful West,) a supply of potatoes, or onions, or cabbages, or fresh vegetables, or fresh or dried fruits of any sort. Physicians call these "anti-scorbutics," and a man dying of scurvy is restored to life if he be supplied with them.

The Commission has long been sending "anti-scorbutics" to the Army by the ton. Just at this time it is difficult to send them to certain points where they are most urgently wanted, because transportation can hardly be obtained for "Sanitary stores" of any class, and, also, because these life-saving vegetables freeze on the road, and then decay and become worthless. But as the season grows milder this latter obstacle will cease to exist—and the Sanitary Commission will somehow or other vanquish the former, and find or make means of carrying help to our soldiers. Let every loyal and humane farmer throughout the country remember that a month hence a string of onions or a peck of potatoes, sent to the Sanitary Commission, will enable it to save some one National soldier from death, and let him set aside what he can spare from his stock, accordingly.

The Commission is taking steps to secure a supply of vegetables for the Army, in addition to what it feels certain of receiving from the people. It is establishing "vegetable gardens" for the Army in Kentucky and Tennessee, at Newbern and at Hilton Head and elsewhere. It has received from the military authorities tracts of farm-land, abandoned by Secessionist proprietors. It has sent on from New York seeds and agricultural implements. Its Inspectors and Relief Agents have secured the labor of "contrabands," and of volunteers from our Northern regiments—"boys" recruited on the hill-side farms of Vermont and the great prairie "lots" of Indiana. But the fruit of these undertakings at the front is necessarily more or less uncertain. What the Commission has sown may be reaped by rebels in temporary re-occupation of the field. The Army must rely mainly on the contributions of our Northern farmers, for its defence against the insidious attacks of scurvy.

G. G. EDGERLEY, ESQ., Agent Sanitary Commission, writing from Port Hudson, says, that the supplies of vegetables, crackers, farina and woolen shirts sent by the Commission to the hospitals of that post, were most opportune. He says *that pickles, farinaceous food, and woolen shirts* are still in demand.

[Extract from the Minutes of the Standing Committee, February 23d, 1864.]

☞ As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 Wall Street, or No. 823 Broadway, New York,) will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.

☞ The statement has of late, been pretty frequently made, and that, too, by persons whose official position is calculated to give weight to their opinions and assertions, that the Army is no longer in want of supplies from the people at home, that the Government is able to provide and does provide for the wants of all, both sick and well, and that the work of the Sanitary Commission is now a work of supererogation. This is a grave mistake. Every body connected with the Army knows that the troops were never in greater need of all that their friends at home can furnish. Constant and urgent appeals are made for stores, and the contributions of all things that tend to the health and comfort of the soldier, both in the field and hospital, were never more precious to the eyes of the medical and military officers. We call attention to several articles in this number as part of the accumulated proof of what we would most emphatically impress upon our readers. General Grant's great and increasing Army, in order to be up to its proper efficiency, needs to-day ALL that can be furnished by the plow and hoe of the farmer, the needle of his wife, the loom of the factory, and the purse of the rich.

DISBURSEMENTS AT NASHVILLE.

The following list comprises the disbursements at Nashville, during the month of January:

Blankets	174	Cans of Fruit	1,831
Comforts	196	Concent'd Beef...lbs.	1,467
Bed Ticks	180	Concent'd Milk..lbs.	3,176
Pillows	2,009	Crackers...lbs.	9,817
Pillow Cases	2,093	Dried Beef...lbs.	100
Sheets	719	Tea...lbs.	1,531
Shirts	6,546	Sugar...lbs.	3,900
Drawers...prs.	3,061	Dried Fruit...lbs.	13,762
Dressing Gowns	440	Fresh Fruit...bush.	162
Coats and Vests	253	Light Groceries..lbs.	2,212
Towels and Handk'fs.	3,009	Codfish...lbs.	4,149
Socks...prs.	2,354	Cheese...lbs.	25
Slippers...prs.	137	Butter...lbs.	2,743
Mittens...prs.	383	Eggs...doz.	75
Arm Slings	157	Wine & Spirits..bots.	1,230
Bandages and Pads	5,292	Apple Butter...galls.	274
Compresses...lbs.	1,907	Pickles...galls.	1,969
Pin Cushions	300	Sour Krout...galls.	8,742
Crutches...prs.	26	Potatoes...bush.	3,423
Books, &c	725	Onions...bush.	1,570
Sundries	391	Ale and Cider..galls.	765

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The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regiment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞ Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies, and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 22 Summer Street, Boston, Mass.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 10 3d Avenue, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 1,307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 46 South Sharp Street, Baltimore, Md.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, corner Vine and Sixth Streets, Cincinnati, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 95 Bank Street, Cleveland, O.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 66 Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 2 Adam's Block, Buffalo, New York.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 59 4th Street, Pittsburg, Penn.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Columbus, Ohio.
Sanitary Commission, Branch Depot, Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky.

The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

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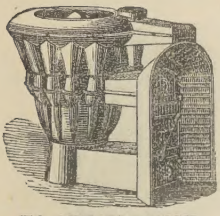

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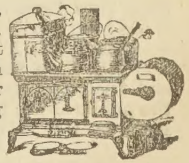

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*** The above work is the result of a commission sent by the French Government to the Crimea to report upon the condition of the Hospitals and troops of the French army, and incidentally of the English and Sardinian armies. It is written in the form of a narrative, and the great questions of the *prevention and control of disease in camps and hospitals* are thoroughly discussed. The hygienic conditions of the United States Army are similar to those of the armies of the Crimea; the rules and prescriptions given in the book will, therefore, be found perfectly applicable. This work recommends itself to commanders of regiments as well as army surgeons.

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ASSETS, 1st January, 1864, - - - - - - 3,286,270 33
LIABILITIES, - - - - - - - - - 75,803 32

ABSTRACT OF THE

Twenty-First Semi-Annual Statement,

SHOWING THE CONDITION OF THE COMPANY ON THE

FIRST DAY OF JANUARY, 1864.

ASSETS.

Cash, Balance in Bank,	$875,680 45
Bonds and Mortgages, being first lien on Real Estate	831,672 50
Loans on Stocks, payable on demand	376,012 50
United States Stocks (market value)	673,588 52
State and Municipal Stocks and Bonds, (market value)	190,159 00
Bank Stocks, (market value)	111,800 00
Real Estate	65,000 00
Interest due on 1st January, 1864	17,896 21
Balance in hands of Agents, and in course of transmission from Agents, on 1st January, 1864	72,348 96
Bills Receivable, (for premiums on Inland Risks)	24,773 90
Government Stamps on hand	96 62
Other Property, Miscellaneous Items	44,117 87
Premiums due and uncollected on Policies issued at Office	3,123 80
Total	$3,286,270 33

LIABILITIES.

Claims for Losses Outstanding on 1st January, 1864	$74,953 32
Due Stockholders on account 18th and 19th dividends	850 00

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A. F. WILLMARTH, Vice-Pres't.

JOHN McGEE, Secretary.

NEW YORK, *January 18th*, 1864.